William Sansom Chairman TVA Board of Directors



William. B. Sansom currently serves as the chairman of the Tennessee Valley Authority board of directors. He holds that position until May 18, 2014, when his term expires.

Sansom lives in Knoxville, Tenn., where he has been chairman and chief executive officer of The H.T. Hackney Co. since 1983. Hackney is a diversified company involved in wholesale grocery and furniture manufacturing.

He has been appointed twice to the TVA board (2006-2009 and 2012-2014) and elected chairman three times by the board membership. In

2006, he was the first chairman elected by the board rather than appointed by the president of the United States, and the first to lead the board after it was restructured from three full-time directors to a more corporate-like board of nine part-time directors and a full-time chief executive officer.

A native of Johnson City, Tenn., Sansom served in the United States Marine Corps after graduating high school and then attended The Citadel where he received a degree in Civil Engineering. Sansom served as Tennessee state transportation commissioner and state finance commissioner in the 1980s and later on the University of Tennessee board of trustees.